



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 637

January Session, 2013

Substitute House Bill No. 6671

House of Representatives, April 24, 2013

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. JUTILA of the 37th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2013*) Each state agency, as
2 defined in section 4-37e of the general statutes, shall inform and
3 communicate with its clients in a culturally competent way that
4 recognizes the diversity of such clients.

5 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) The Legislative Program Review and
6 Investigations Committee shall conduct a study regarding the
7 feasibility of creating a centralized state permitting office with
8 streamlined procedures that would be responsible for the issuance of
9 all business permits. On or before January 1, 2014, said committee shall
10 submits its findings and recommendations concerning such study to
11 the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
12 cognizance of matters relating to government administration and
13 commerce in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
14 general statutes.

15 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The polka shall be the state
16 dance.

17 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The ballroom polka shall be the
18 state polka.

19 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The song entitled "Beautiful
20 Connecticut Waltz", composed by Joseph Leggo of Newington, shall be
21 the second state song.

22 Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 10-29a of the general statutes is
23 amended by adding subdivisions (62) to (65), inclusive, as follows
24 (*Effective from passage*):

25 (NEW) (62) The Governor shall proclaim the month of March of
26 each year to be Irish-American Month to honor Americans of Irish
27 ancestry, their culture and the great contribution they have made to
28 this country. Suitable exercises shall be held in the State Capitol and
29 elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the month.

30 (NEW) (63) The Governor shall proclaim the month of October of
31 each year to be Italian-American Month to honor Americans of Italian
32 ancestry, their culture and the great contribution they have made to
33 this country. Suitable exercises shall be held in the State Capitol and
34 elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the month.

35 (NEW) (64) The Governor shall proclaim the month of November of
36 each year to be Native American Month to honor Americans of Native
37 American ancestry, their culture and the great contribution they have
38 made to this country. Suitable exercises shall be held in the State
39 Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance
40 of the month.

41 (NEW) (65) The Governor shall proclaim June twenty-fourth of each
42 year to be French Canadian-American Day to honor Americans of
43 French Canadian ancestry, their culture and the great contribution they
44 have made to this country. Suitable exercises shall be held in the State
45 Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance

46 of the day.

47 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Economic
48 and Community Development may, in his or her discretion, designate
49 a day, week or month for the celebration of any ethnic, cultural or
50 heritage group upon the application of such ethnic, cultural or heritage
51 group for such designation.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2013</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	10-29a(a)
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	New section

GAE Joint Favorable Subst.

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill requires each state agency to inform and communicate with its clients in a culturally competent way that recognizes the diversity of its clients. It also requires the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee to conduct a study, on or before January 1, 2014, regarding the feasibility of creating a centralized state permitting office. These provisions are not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact.

The bill makes other changes that also do not result in a fiscal impact.

The Out Years**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 6671*****AN ACT CONCERNING GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires each state department, board, authority, commission, office, institution, council, or other state agency to inform and communicate with its clients in a culturally competent way that recognizes the clients' diversity.

The bill also requires the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee (PRI) to study the feasibility of creating a centralized state permitting office to issue all business permits. PRI must submit its findings and recommendations to the Commerce and Government Administration and Elections committees by January 1, 2014.

Additionally, the bill requires (1) the governor to proclaim the following months and day of each year to honor Americans of different ancestry and (2) suitable exercises to be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the governor designates:

1. March as Irish-American Month,
2. October as Italian-American Month,
3. November as Native American Month, and
4. June 24 as French Canadian-American Day.

It also establishes (1) the polka as the state dance; (2) the ballroom polka as the state polka; and (3) Beautiful Connecticut Waltz, composed by Joseph Leggo, as the second state song.

Lastly, the bill allows the economic and community development commissioner to designate a day, week, or month for celebrating ethnic, cultural, or heritage groups upon the application of such groups. In practice, such days, weeks, or months are proclaimed by the governor in his role as the chief executive.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except that the communication requirement is effective October 1, 2013.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 14 Nay 0 (04/05/2013)